

## Message Text

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ACTION HEW-08

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 129

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 3258

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, OSCI, IN

SUBJ: DHEW/PHS/SFCP MEETING WITH JOINT SECRETARY,  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING

REF: STATE: (A) 151563 AUG. 18, 1972 (B) 169783 SEPT. 19, 1972

NEW DELHI: (C) A-325 JULY 29, 1972 (D) 8096 JUNE 30, 1972

STATE: (E) 43985 MARCH 6, 1974

1. SCIATT AND DEPSCIATT MET WITH JOINT SECRETARY KUTTY, MOHFP AND OTHER HEALTH OFFICIALS MARCH 5 TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON THE MODEL SFC PROJECT FORMAT BETWEEN MOHFP AND DHEW. MOHFP DELAYED THESE NEGOTIATIONS SINCE OCTOBER 1972 PENDING A SETTLEMENT OF THE RUPEE PROBLEM. THE ONLY REMAINING ISSUE AT THAT TIME CONCERNED SECTION "F" PROJECT RELATED INCOME AND SECTION "K" PUBLICATIONS AND PATENTS. AT THE TUESDAY MEETING WE REVIEWED AGAIN THE DHEW PROPOSED WORDING FOR THESE TWO SECTIONS REFTELS A-B, THERE WAS NO PROBLEM RAISED WITH SECTION "F" AS IT STANDS. SECTION K PART "PATENTS" WAS READ OVER SEVERAL TIMES AND A FEW WORDS ADDED TO CLARIFY

MEANINGS BUT NOT REPEAT NOT TO CHANGE THE SENSE OF THE WORDING. MR. KUTTY INDICATED HE WOULD HAVE THE DRAFT FORMAT OFFICIALLY CLEARED WITH MOH LEGAL ADVISORS AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. HE MENTIONED HE COULD SEE NO PROBLEMS. THE CLEARED DRAFT WILL THEN BE FORWARDED TO DHEW FOR FINAL APPROVAL.

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2. KUTTY FURTHER STATED THAT THE SFC HEALTH PROJECTS WHICH WERE

HELD BY THE MOH PENDING SETTLEMENT OF THE RUPEE AGREEMENT WERE GIVEN TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS ARE STILL INTERESTED IN PURSUING THESE PROJECTS, AND WHETHER THEY ARE STILL OF SUFFICIENT PRIORITY TO THE GOI. (THE EMBASSY IS COORDINATING THE REVIEW AND CLEARANCE OF 17 HEALTH PROJECTS WITH (CMR). AFTER THE NEW SFC PROJECT FORMAT HAS BEEN CLEARED BY MOH/DHEW THESE PROJECTS WILL BE RE-TYPED ON THE NEW FORMAT REFLECTING THE REVISIONS AGREED TO BY DHEW AND MOH. ALSO, OTHER PROJECTS THAT HAVE BEEN APPROVED IN THE PAST BY THE GOI AND AWAITING APPROVAL BY DHEW SHOULD BE PREPARED ACCORDING TO THIS NEW ARRANGEMENT.

3. WE DISCUSSED U.S./INDO COOPERATION IN GENERAL, AND AGREED THAT SINCE THE BARRIERS HAVE BEEN LIFTED WITH THE SIGNING OF THE RUPEE AGREEMENT AND RELATIONS MORE NORMALIZED, COOPERATION ON A NUMBER OF PROGRAMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST COULD BE CONSIDERED. WE SAID THAT DHEW WOULD LIKE TO KNOW CURRENT MOH PRIORITIES IN THE BIOMEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICE AREAS IN ORDER TO REVIEW AND REACT TO THEM. MR. KUTTY AGREED TO FURNISH THESE PRIORITIES IN COORDINATION WITH THE ICMR WHICH WILL BE THE PRIMARY FOCAL POINT FOR THE COORDINATION AND FUNDING OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH RESEARCH IN INDIA.

IN THIS REGARD, KUTTY WELCOMES THE PROPOSED VISIT OF DR. PAUL EHRLICH, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL HEALTH/DHEW TO INDIA APRIL 1-3 TO DISCUSS EXPANSION OF THE COOPERATION BETWEEN DHEW AND MOH. CABLE FOLLOWS ON EMBASSY RESPONSE TO REFTEL STATE (E) 43985 CONCERNING TIMING OF EHRLICH'S VISIT. MOYNIHAN

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